the RARS Exciter

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

RARS

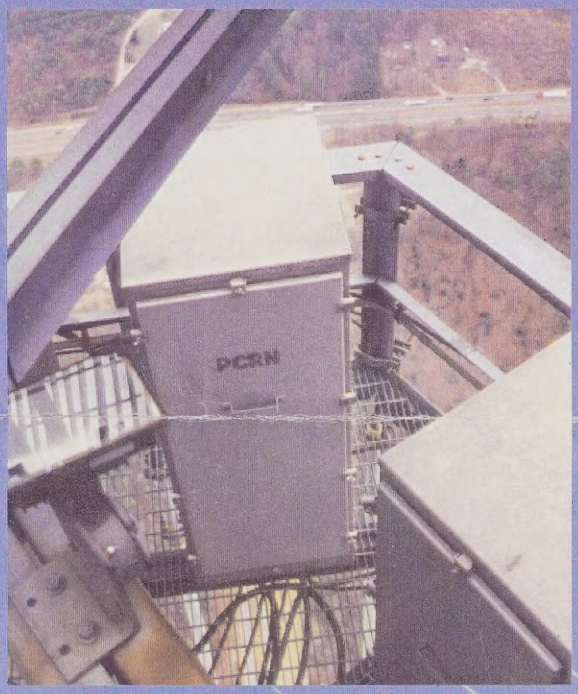
Worldwide Friendship

October, 2000
Number 360

The PCRN 146.88 Repeater Sits HERE: –

The 1400 foot level of the 2000 foot WRAL-TV Tower

The KO4CW 147.195 Repeater sits here: — the 1250 foot level



The JARS 147.27 Repeater sits here: — the 850 foot level

Next RARS Meeting:
Tuesday, Oct. 3rd
- APRS -
(do you know where your mobile is?)

November Auction Postponed One Week
see page 3 for details

The Exciter

The ***Exciter*** is the monthly newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It is available in both printed and electronic form. The printed version is mailed to members just before each club meeting. The electronic form, in Adobe Acrobat PDF format, is e-mailed about a week earlier.

We solicit both articles and advertising. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the prior month. Contact the Editor.

The views contained in the Exciter are those of the individual authors, and are not necessarily the views of the Editor, or the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society.

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the Amateur Radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, we incorporated a new RARS, and obtained 501(c)(3) Non-Profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through Amateur Radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic need; to educate members in radio technique; and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining Amateur Radio licenses.

Anyone interested in Amateur Radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are $18.00 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay $5.00 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are $12.00 per year. Dues for non-licensed Associate members are $9.00 per year.

Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer, or the RARS web site (www.rars.org).

Officers

President	**Tim Nicholson KF4RTX** **501-7746** **kf4rtx@arrl.net**
Vice-President	**open**
Secretary	**Jeff Wittich AC4ZO** **362-9456** **ac4zo@arrl.net**
Treasurer	**David Fix N4YTO** **677-8320** **dfix@pagesz.net**
Exciter Editor	**Gary Pearce KN4AQ** **380-9944** **kn4aq@arrl.net**

SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

Info

Repeaters:

145.13
146.64
224.64
444.525 (88.5 PL)

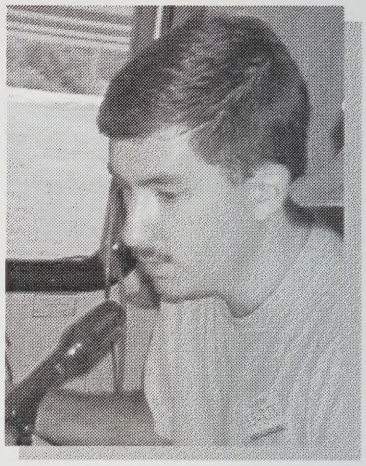
Web Site:

http://www.rars.org

President's Corner

Tim Nicholson KF4RTX

BILLION WITH A "B"



I don't know how the rest of you feel, but this year seems to be flying by! It only seems like yesterday when we were all preparing for the Y2K devastation and later dealing with the huge snowfall. Now it's October and the State Fair is looming large along with many other public service events. There just doesn't seem to be any time to slow down in the near future!

But that's a good thing. It means we're out there helping our community and using our privileges as hams. It also means that we are using our precious spectrum. I read in a computer magazine the other day where sales of spectrum space in Germany netted some $40 Billion (no, that's not a typo, it's supposed to be a 'B'). There are companies out there drooling over the spectrum that we have, and they would like nothing more than to get their hands on it. Congress would like nothing more than to get paid billions of dollars for it. It is extremely important that we preserve our hold on the amateur radio spectrum by increasing our presence in public service events and other activities.

Speaking of the many public service events coming up, have you signed up for at least one? There are several events coming up, and the event coordinators are going to need help. Listen to the nightly 8 o'clock nets on 64 or visit the RARS website (www.rars.org/public-service) for more information. The event coordinators can also be contacted for information or to sign up for the event or events of your choice.

I would like to thank all those who came to the September meeting in support of PCRN. I am happy to report that giving reached our matching limit of $500. Danny and Frank were very happy to receive a total of $1000 from RARS and our members. The money we gave to PCRN will help them maintain and expand their network of great repeaters.

I am also grateful to hear the activity from both new and experienced hams on 64. We still have the repeater hogs that show up, but most folks are learning to deal with them. The new KG4 calls are becoming more abundant, and they are doing a great job utilizing the repeater. Gary KN4AQ, Jeff AC4ZO and all the other RARS license class teachers should be highly commended for doing such a great job teaching these new folks. I always find it a joy to speak to one of the class graduates and to hear how they are growing in the hobby.

See you on the air!

Nominating Committee Taking Recommendations

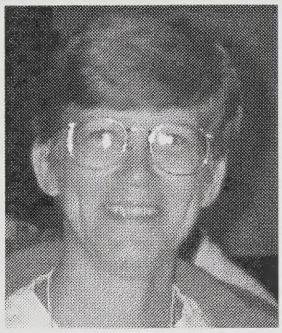
The RARS Nominating Committee is looking for suggestions for next year's officers and Board. The open officer positions are **Vice President** and **Treasurer** (officers are elected for 2-year terms). Most Board members have indicated their interest in keeping their position for another year, but there will be a few vacancies on the Board as well.

If you are interested in an office, or suggesting a candidate, contact Chuck Littlewood K4HF.

YL Net Begins on 146.775

Denyse Walter KG4CXR

Welcome all ladies to the new TRIANGLE WOMAN'S NET. We meet on 146.775 (88.5 Hz tone) at 9:00pm on Wednesday nights.



Denyse KG4CXR

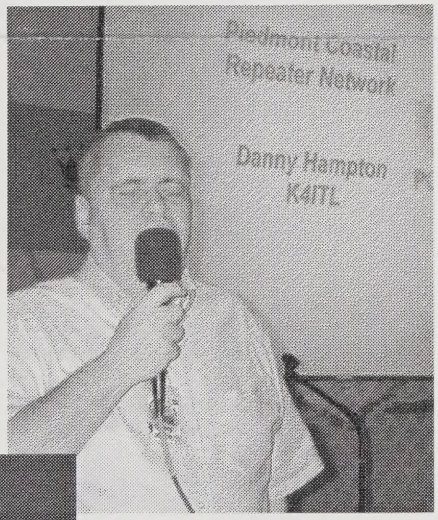
Our first net was a success with 5 people. The goal is for women who have tech licenses or above to be able to talk on the radio in case of emergencies or to rag chew along with all the others who have had their radios for awhile.

If you have trouble hitting the repeater, try using 100 Hz tone. That accesses a second receiver on the DH Hill Library building on the NC State campus. And thanks to the NCSU StARS club for making the repeater available for the net. ■

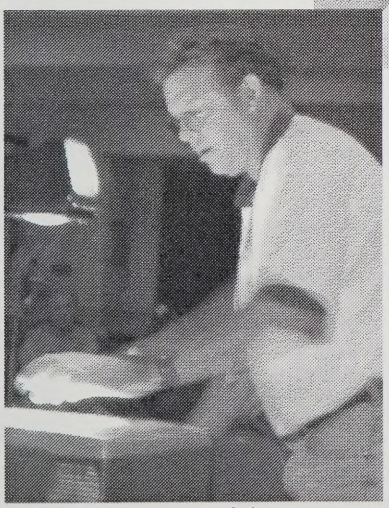
SERA and PCRN Featured at Sept. RARS Meeting

Danny Hampton K4ITL and Frank Lynch W4FAL described both SERA (SouthEastern Repeater Assn.) and PCRN (Piedmont Coastal Repeater Network) to RARS members at the September meeting.

SERA is the frequency coordinating body for eight southeastern states. Danny is the NC SERA Director, and Frank is the NC Frequency Coordinator. Their job is to help repeater owners find the clearest frequency possible for repeaters. The SERA Repeater Journal, published quarterly, contains a directory of all repeaters in the southeast, plus articles and columns of interest to FM operators. Web: www.sera.org.



K4ITL describes the PCRN



W4FAL prepares a slide reviewing the SouthEastern Repeater Assn.

Through PCRN, Danny operates a series of linked repeaters that cover much of North Carolina, and reach into Virginia, West Virginia and South Carolina. Danny hopes to add Outer Banks coverage to the network in the next year.

At the meeting, RARS helped raise over $1000 in contributions for PCRN ($506 from members, and $500 matching contribution from the club). ■

November Meeting/Auction Postponed One Week

The November RARS meeting, our **Auction** meeting, will be postponed one week to November 14. Our meeting place, the Forest Hills Baptist Church, will be used as a polling place on our usual first Tuesday, and because this is a presidential election year, church officials are worried that there will be too much congestion in the parking lot. So mark your calendar! The November RARS meeting will be on the 2nd Tuesday of November.

The Auction will be a little different, too. We're going to simplify things, and have buyers pay sellers directly, and more or less immediately after bidding on an item. So start rooting through your collection of Junque and get ready to bid!

PUBLIC SERVICE CALENDAR

For details visit www.rars.org/public-service or call Bill KG4CXY at 469-0785

Duke Liver Center Triathlon - Jordan Lake

Sunday, October 1

This is a half-Triathalon; 1.2 mile swim, 56 mile bike ride, and 13.1 mile run. Given the size of the course we're going to need lots of volunteers (afloat, on foot, mobile). To volunteer, contact Eric Haywood KG4CXW at: kg4cxw@arrl.net

State Fair/Red Cross Communicators

Friday, Oct. 13 through Sunday, Oct. 22.

Hams do the dispatching for the First Aid teams that respond to medical emergencies anywhere on the fair grounds.

To volunteer, contact Bill Cole KG4CXY at 469-0785, or e-mail bcole@jmpstart.com

Diabetes Walk for Hope

Saturday, October 14. The walk starts in Umstead Park, and ends at Lake Crabtree park. To volunteer, contact Dick Orander KD4ISC at 469-5322, or e-mail kd4isc@arrl.net.

Raleigh Marathon

Sunday, December 3. To volunteer, contact Ralph Embry KF4NIR at kf4nir@aol.com.

A Step-by-Step Guide to ULS and CORES

Timothy Nicholson KF4RTX

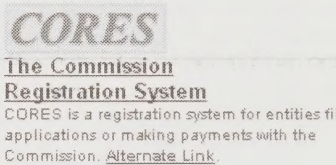
PART 2 - CORES

Last month, I provided instructions for using the FCC's ULS database. As you could probably tell, the ULS is a complex system that has quite a bit of room for mistakes. I apparently made one while doing my research. I selected the wrong function, ***Renewal/Modification***, to change my license information. A few weeks after I finished the article, I received a letter from the FCC informing me that my application was rejected. The letter also mentioned something about my license possibly being revoked. Figuring it would look bad if the just-elected president of RARS lost his license, I quickly called the FCC and found out I should have selected ***Administrative Update*** to change basic information. Fortunately my license was not in danger of cancellation in this case. The moral of this story is you should always ask if in doubt about a function on the ULS.

This month, we will focus on the upcoming replacement for the ULS, **CORES.** CORES stands for **CO**mmission **RE**gistration **S**ystem. It is much simpler to use than the ULS, but it currently does not have as many capabilities. *Unlike the ULS, you can use either Netscape or Microsoft Internet browsers to access the system.*

ACCESSING CORES

To access CORES, go to the FCC website (**www.fcc.gov**) and click on the CORES link.



Alternately, you can go directly to the CORES system by keying in the address:

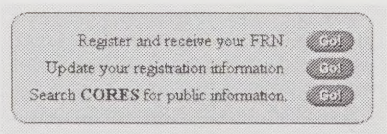
https://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/cores/help/ulsMessage.html

Be sure to include the 's' after the 'http' because the CORES system is in a secured area of the FCC website. This means that anything you enter in this area is secured from prying eyes. Note: the FCC recommends that you *do not bookmark* this link as it could possibly change in the future. Instead, they recommend accessing CORES from the FCC website.

The next page that appears will give you some information explaining the need for an **FRN**, or FCC Registration Number. The FRN replaces the Taxpayer ID Number (TIN) as an ID to access the CORES system. If you previously registered with the ULS, you should have received a letter containing your FRN and password. If you have not registered with the ULS, you can register with the CORES system either online or via phone and receive an FRN. When you have finished reading the page, select the **Continue to CORES** link at the bottom of the page.

CORES MAIN MENU

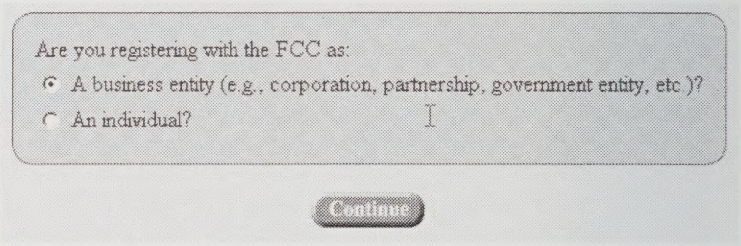
The main CORES page provides you with three options.



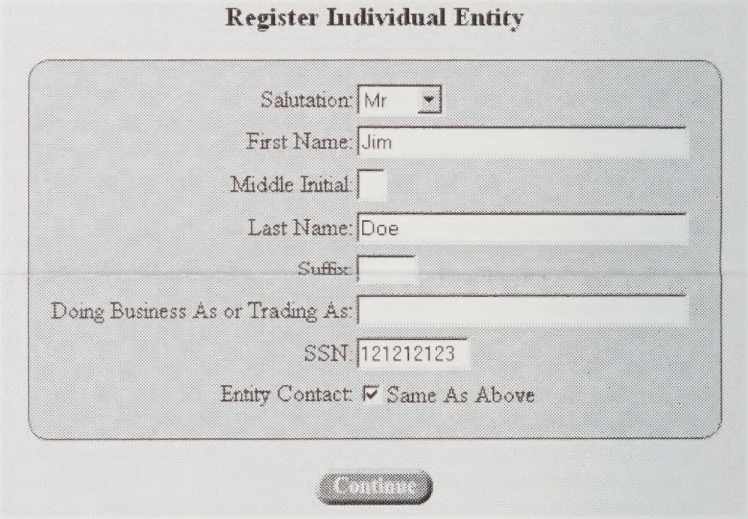
You can ***register*** with CORES to receive your FRN, ***update*** your license information, or ***search*** the database.

To register with CORES, click on the "Go!" button by the Register menu item.

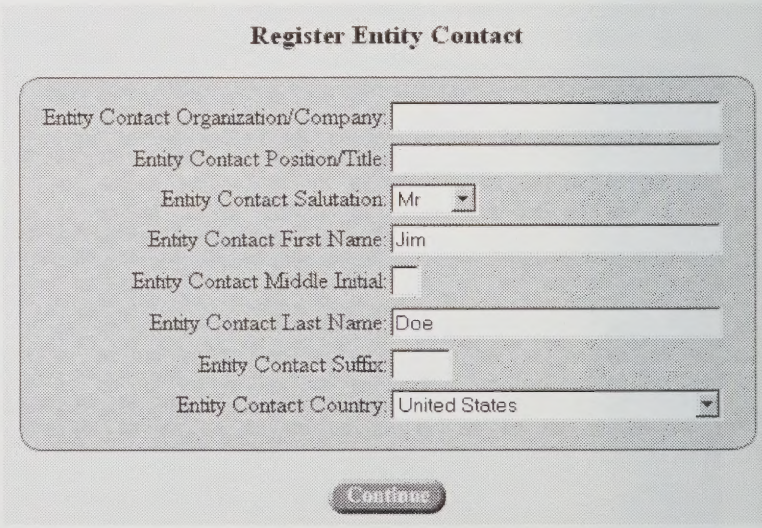
Next, select the type of entity you are (you should choose "Individual") and click "Continue".



On the next screen, "Register Individual Entity", enter your name and Social Security Number (ok, they still have to have it, just not as a login ID) and click on "Continue".



Check the "Entity Contact - Same As Above" box and the next page, "Register Entity Contact", will already be filled out for you.



Click on "Continue" to proceed.

continued on next page

CORES continued from previous page

Enter your address information on the "Register Entity Contact Address" and click "Continue".

Register Entity Contact Address

Street Address: 123 Main Street
PO Box:
City: Washington
State: DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Zip: 20554 -
Email: jdoe@doecomm.com
Phone: (202) 418 - 0600 Ext:
FAX: ( ) -

Continue

At this point, you are shown a review screen with the option to change your information. Double-check your entries and then enter your password at the bottom of the page.

Password:
Confirm Password:
Password Hint:

Submit Registration Cancel Registration

Your password must be at least 6 characters in length. You will need to enter the password again in the "Confirm password" field to make sure it is typed correctly. Type in some sort of password hint that can be used to help you remember your password in the event you forget it. Be sure to use a password that isn't obvious. It is best to use a combination of letters and numbers to make it harder for someone to guess. Should you forget your password, you can call the CORES administrator at (877) 480-3201 and ask for your password hint or request a new password. You will need to supply them with your FRN and TIN numbers. If you request a new password, the administrator will mail it to you as a security precaution instead of giving it to you on the phone.

Once you are sure everything is correct and you have entered your password and hint, click the "Submit Registration" button. If you realize that you want to start over, or that you don't want to continue with registration, click on the "Cancel Registration" button.

Tech/Trader Net
8:30 Saturday on 64
Two Nets In One!

After you submit the registration, the FCC will generate your FRN and show you your password and password hint.

I recommend that you print this information and store it in a safe and secure place.

Thank you for registering with the FCC.

As of 09/16/2000 03:05:20 PM your entity,
Mr. Jim Doe,
is assigned the following FCC Registration Number:
FRN: 0003-7772-99
The password and password hint you selected are:
Password: redred
Password Hint: bright color twice

To update this registration information, please click the CORES Home link.

That's it! You're registered. Click on the "CORES Home" link to return to the main CORES page.

MODIFYING YOUR INFORMATION

Register and receive your FRN Go!
Update your registration information Go!
Search CORES for public information Go!

To change your information, click on the "Go!" button by "Update Your Registration Information".

Enter your FRN and password and click "Continue".

Update Registration

FRN:
Password:

Continue

Once you are successfully logged in to the system, you have the option to change any of the data you entered during registration.

Click the appropriate "Update..." button to make the necessary changes. You will be presented with the same screens shown during registration for each appropriate section. Once you have made all your changes, click on the "Submit All Changes" button. You will then be given a confirmation screen.

Update Registration

FRN: 0003-7772-99
SSN: 121-21-2123
Registration Date: 09/16/2000 03:05:20 PM
Last Update Date:

Entity Name: Mr. Jim Doe
Doing Business As or Trading As:
Entity Type: Individual

Update Entity

Entity Contact Organization/Company:
Entity Contact Position/Title:
Entity Contact: Mr. Jim Doe
Entity Contact Country: United States

Update Entity Contact

Entity Contact Address: 123 Main Street
Washington, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 20554
Entity Contact Email: jdoe@doecomm.com
Entity Contact Phone: (202) 418-0600
Entity Contact FAX:

Update Entity Contact Address

Password: redred
Password Hint: bright color twice

Update Password

Submit All Changes Cancel

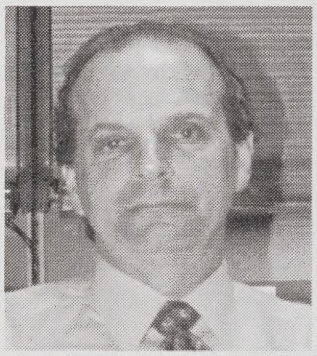
As you can see, the CORES system is less complicated than the ULS system; however, it currently does not have the full functionality of ULS. For example, you cannot request a vanity call or renew your license through CORES. In time, I believe these functions will be added if CORES is to replace ULS.

I think the FCC is headed in the right direction with the CORES system. It is much more simple to use, and you are not forced to use one browser over another. Once the additional functions of the ULS are added to CORES, I believe this will be a much better tool for maintaining our license information with the FCC. ■

Riley Hollingsworth's Ten Personal Suggestions for Amateur Radio Operators

Delivered at the ARRL New England Division Convention August 26, 2000, in Boxboro, Massachusetts.
Reprinted from the ARRL Letter

1. Be proud of what you have and let your feelings be known. Let the public know what you are, what Amateur Radio is, and why it's valuable. Let your feelings be known to Congress, to the FCC, to the media, to your states and to emergency agencies. Sprint does. AT&T does. Motorola does.
2. Operate as if the whole world is listening. It is!
3. Take nothing for granted. Bill Gates can't, and you can't either.
4. You're at a crossroads now. An old Chinese philosopher (or my grandmother- I can never remember which!) said, "Be careful what you wish for. You may get it." Seize the moment, and make this your finest hour. Ham radio has been at a crossroads before and has thrived. Continue that tradition.
5. Make sure that, on your watch, Amateur Radio never becomes obsolete.
6. Teach the new licensees all you know. We've needed numbers for a long time. Respect this wonderful legacy known as Amateur Radio that our mentors and Elmers gave us. Every time you key the mike or hit the key, think about what a legacy you were given and your duty to pass it on.



Riley Hollingsworth K4ZDH

7. Enjoy ham radio. Celebrate it. But realize it comes with responsibility. Every gift of lasting value always does.
8. Stay away from arrogant, negative operators who know all the answers. They just haven't thought of all the questions. Encourage them to take their anger and hate to the Internet. Every minute they are on the Internet is a minute they aren't on Amateur Radio.
9. Never allow Amateur Radio to become the audio version of The Jerry Springer Show.
10. You may not always agree with the League, and that's fine. But I'm standing here before you tonight talking about enforcement because they never gave up. Take care of the one voice you have. You must never doubt that a small group of dedicated people can change the world. They just did.

Random Retesting? Local Hams Say Yes... FCC Says No

Gary Pearce KN4AQ

Earlier this summer, the following notices appeared in the **FCC Enforcement Log** on the ARRL web site (www.arrl.org/news/enforcement_logs):

ELM CITY, NC: The FCC requested July 11, 2000, that Woody B. Bradley Jr, NC4OK, retake the Advanced examination elements under the supervision of an ARRL-VEC volunteer examiner team. Bradley must appear for retesting by September 30, 2000, or his license will be canceled.

CLAYTON, NC: The FCC requested July 11, 2000, that Ronald A. Neal, KE4KFZ, retake the General examination elements under the supervision of an ARRL-VEC volunteer examiner team. Neal must appear for retesting by September 15, 2000, or his license will be canceled. .

No reason for the order to retest was published, *and the order has since been rescinded*, according to Woody NC4OK.

When the order first appeared, I contacted Woody to see what was behind it. He said Riley Hollingsworth had contacted him and Ron, and told them it was a random retest.

Random retesting would be a new aspect of FCC enforcement. The FCC does have the authority to retest any ham who was tested in a VE session, but so far they haven't done so randomly. I asked Riley about this case, and he replied, "There's no simple answer to this, except that we don't do it at random. We base our actions on the rule, however, but there would be something more there than just a random hit." The FCC will not comment on the specific case.

An innocent ham may be retested in some circumstances. Woody sent me a copy of e-mail he received from the FCC's Bill Cross that said that if a VE Test Session was invalidated due to errors made by the VEs, the hams tested may be called in for retesting rather than just having their licenses cancelled.

In speeches at hamfests, including the **RARS*fest*** in April, Riley said that he does use retesting as an enforcement tool. For example, the "Captain Truth" suspect, John M. Yount of Newton, North Carolina, was called in for retesting. Yount failed to appear, and his license (K4QIJ) was cancelled

While the published FCC Enforcement Logs give details on most alleged rules violations, they do not give details on orders to retake exams. But with the retest order rescinded for Woody and Ron, the issue is closed. ■

Roanoke Div. Director, Vice Director Elected

ARRL Letter

ARRL Roanoke Division Director Dennis Bodson W4PWF, and Vice Director Leslie J. Shattuck K4NK, were both declared elected to their positions without membership vote, since they ran unopposed. Dennis and Les were both appointed to the offices earlier this year in a chain of promotions that followed after the previous Director, John Kanode N4MM, was elected to the position of ARRL Vice President. They will serve three-year terms.

The Roanoke Division includes North and South Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia.

W4FAL Appointed Technical Specialist

Frank Lynch W4FAL

I recently was appointed as this area's ARRL Technical Specialist (TS for short) by John Covington, W4CC (ARRL NC Section Manager), and Danny Hampton, K4ITL (ARRL NC Technical Coordinator) . You can read about the ARRL TS position (and other volunteer postions in the ARRL Field Organization) at www.arrl.org/field/org.

In general, here's a brief outline of the TS's duties:

Frank Lynch W4FAL

1. *Serve as a technical advisor to local hams and clubs. Correspond by telephone and letter on tech topics. Refer correspondents to other sources if specific topic is outside TS's knowledge.*
2. *Serve as advisor in radio frequency interference issues. RFI can drive a wedge in neighbor and city relations. It will be the TS with a cool head who will resolve problems. Local hams will come to you for guidance in dealing with interference problems.*
3. *Speak at local clubs on popular tech topics. Let local clubs know you're available and willing.*
4. *Represent ARRL at technical symposiums in industry; serve on CATV advisory committees; advise municipal governments on technical matters.*
5. *Work with other ARRL officials and appointees when called upon for technical advice, especially in emergency communications situations where technical prowess can mean the difference in getting a communications system up and running, the difference between life and death.*
6. *Handle other miscellaneous technically-related tasks assigned by the Technical Coordinator.*

Should any of you need assistance with doing a RF Safety Compliance Evaluation, don't hesitate to contact me. I have the appropriate worksheets (and some web links to help do this). ■

contact Frank at: w4fal@arrl.net

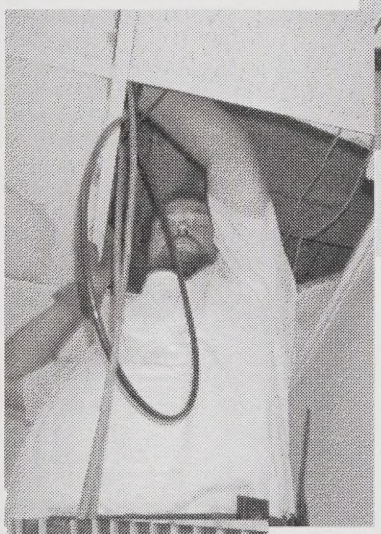
KG4FJA Appointed Wake County EC

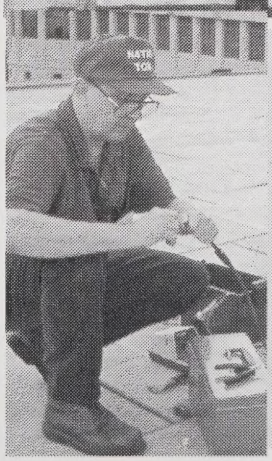
Ron Ford KG4FJA has officially received word of his appointment as Wake County EC! The appointment was made by NC Section Emergency Coordinator David Fleming KE4JHJ.

KG4HDT and WA4BPJ snake new coax and rotor cable down from the roof

Ron has not been waiting for the appointment to prepare Wake County ARES for its job of providing emergency communications for the county and the State EOC. Most of the activity so far has been focused on the State EOC. With the help of the team of SERT Coordinators, two training sessions brought 50 hams to the State EOC. Bill Ward KD4ISF reports over 80 hams have current information in the ARES call-up database. And with the help of a large crew of hams, new antennas have been installed and new feedline run at the State EOC. The station now has a new dual-band radio and a 13-element 2 Meter beam to help reach more distant repeaters. Wake County gets attention next. ■

KG4FJA celebrates his appointment by squeezing into this small closet, routing cables between floors





K4NGJ pulls the cable into the basement, while N4TAB assembles a connector on the roof, and K4LNX keeps the cable straight on the second floor. Oh, darn... no room for Larry KG4FIQ's pix...

WØUCE & Crew Score Big in 160 Contest

More Fox Hunt Fun

Dennis Herman KA4ATK and Darrell Gammon KF4URC identify one of five foxes in Umstead Park on Sept. 10.

Dennis and Darrell just dropped by to see what it was all about, and Gary KN4AQ invited them to "watch him hunt just one of the five foxes." After the first fox was found, Gary handed the equipment to Dennis and Darrell, the trap was sprung, the hook was set... oh, never mind the metaphors. They loved it. Next hunts:

October 29, 2000: Schenck Forest

November 19, 2000: Lake Johnson

December 10, 2000: Umstead State Park

Details: ***www.qsl.net/nz0i/***

1999 ARRL 160-Meter Contest Results

Top Ten

Single Operator, Low Power

KB1EGB (WA1LNP, op)	171,535
W4WA (AA4GA, op)	132,799
K1PX	129,040
K1KY	109,368
K9AY	107,600
K7CA	102,641
K9OT	101,602
NØAT	98,842
K4AO	97,090
K3JT	90,798

K9DX	204,336
N4AF	204,300
W9RE	200,695

Multioperator

W8JI	295,704
K8XXX	236,964
K9NR	206,115
K2UG	202,752
N1RR	189,600
K3WW	179,000
WØUCE	156,816
WØAH	130,216
WN9O	129,504
K8FC	118,179

From August 2000 QST © ARRL

This 40-foot vertical at WØUCE helped Dan N3ND, Bert N4CW and Jack WØUCE place 7th nationwide and 1st in the NC Section in the multiop class for the ARRL 160 Meter Contest. The crew made all their contacts on cw (of course).

BlueCross BlueShield of North Carolina

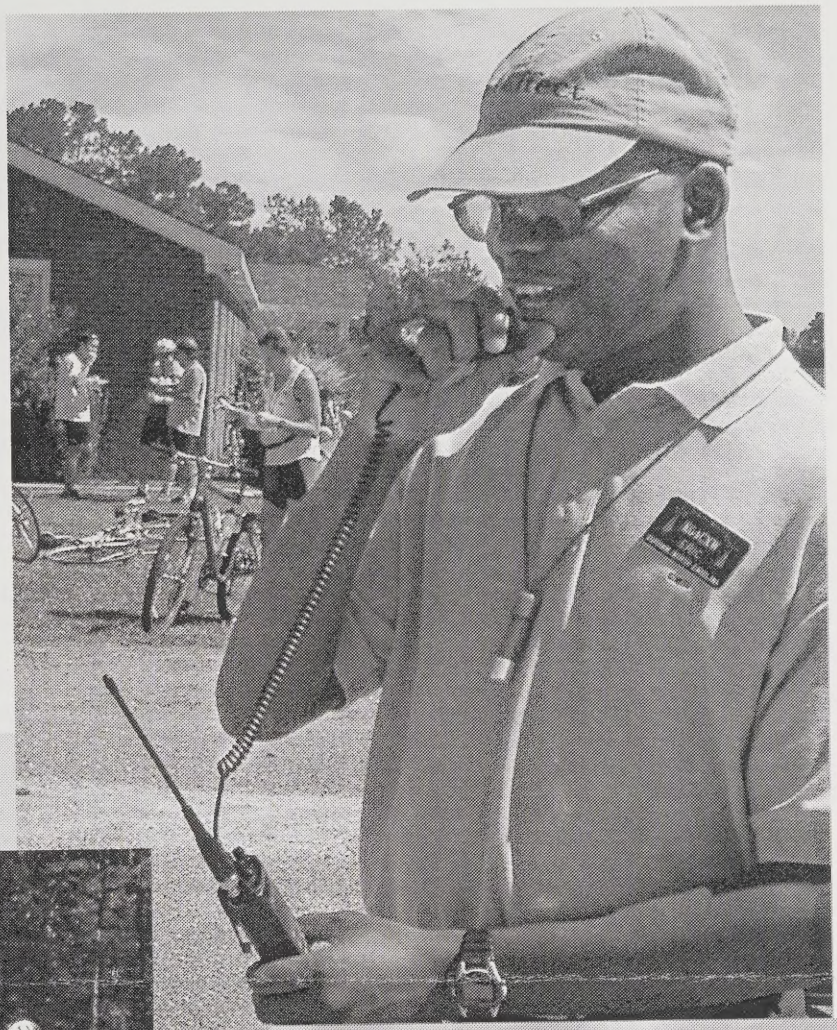
MS BIKE TOUR

BEACH OR BUST!

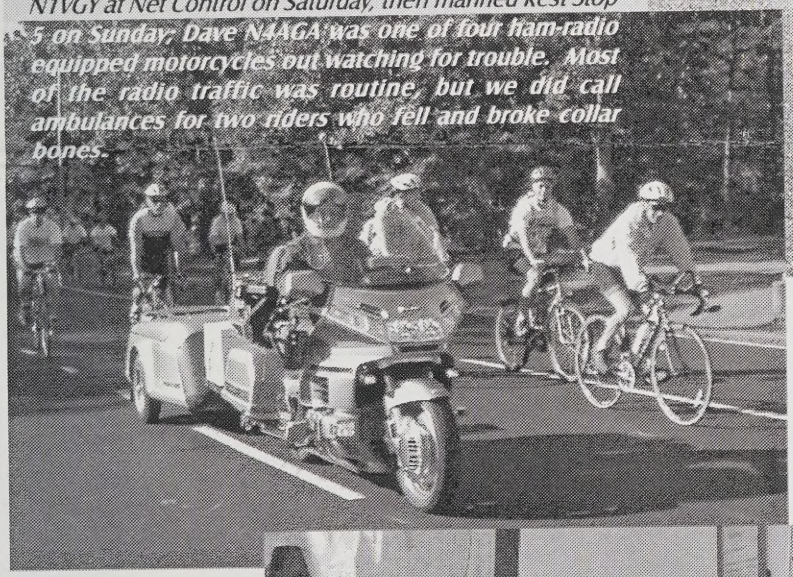
Eastern North Carolina Chapter

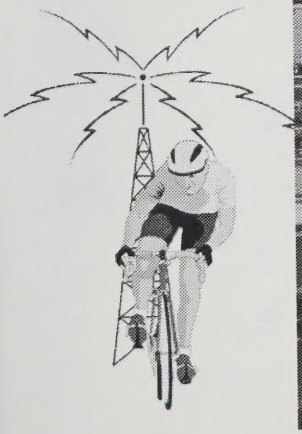
This year it was ***BEACH***, not BUST as 38 hams from the Triangle and Eastern NC helped about 500 bicyclists ride the 150 mile route from Clayton to Emerald Isle. The MS-150 is a major fundraiser for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. There are versions of the MS-150 all over the country, including two more in North and South Carolina.

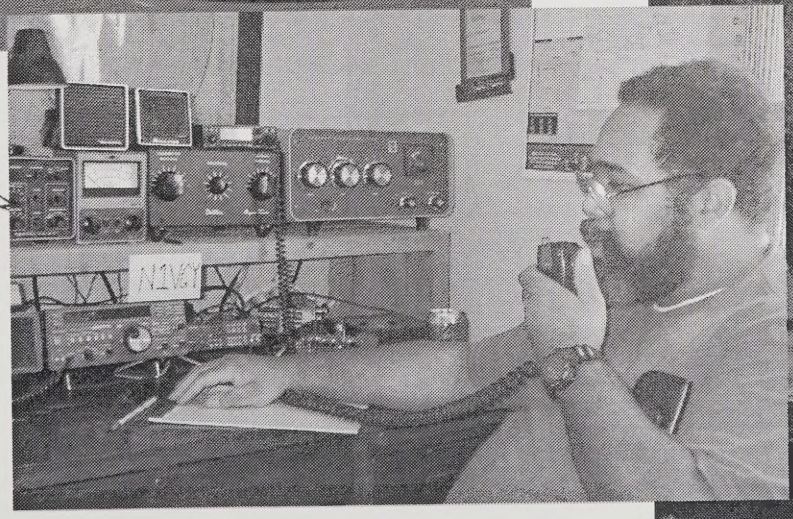
For the riders, the MS-150 is a challenging, two-day ride. This year, great weather and a constant tail-wind helped everyone along. For the hams, it's a challenging communications exercise, as we provide SAGS, rest stops, the supply truck and the key organizers with radio contact over the entire route. This year we used three main repeaters, the PCRN's machines on 146.88 in Raleigh and 145.21 in Trenton, and the Eastern NC Repeater Assn. 146.685 repeater in Grifton. We also used WA4DAN's 224.72 repeater in Trenton. Thanks to all who participated! ■



Photos, clockwise from right: Eric KG4CXW operates from Rest Stop 3; Kevin W4KJD's big mast helps him hit the repeaters from the fringes; David KD4WQU assisted Dick N1VGY at Net Control on Saturday, then manned Rest Stop 5 on Sunday; Dave N4AGA was one of four ham-radio equipped motorcycles out watching for trouble. Most of the radio traffic was routine, but we did call ambulances for two riders who fell and broke collar bones.







Learn more about the MS-150 at: www.rars.org/ms-150

SWL/Scanner Report

Kelly Mills AE4FG

The July meeting of the Scanner/SWL SIG was held on the 17th at the El Rodeo restaurant on Pleasant Valley Road in Raleigh. Eighteen people attended.

The topic of the meeting was monitoring resources. Several scanning and shortwave books and magazines were presented to the group. Some of the scanning references included: Police Call, www.perconcorp.com, and the Scanning USA magazine. Shortwave references included: Monitoring Times magazine, Passport to Worldband Radio, and handouts for longwave broadcasting stations, clandestine shortwave stations, and listings for the AM broadcast band.

The August meeting of the Scanner/SWL SIG was held on the 21st at the El Rodeo restaurant on Pleasant Valley Road in Raleigh. Tom McKee, K4ZAD, gave a presentation about the history of 2 meter Ham radio in the 50s and early 60s.

On August 28th, the group met for a tour of the NC State Highway Patrol dispatch center. Supervisor Ruby Raben led the tour, answered all of the group's questions, and gave us detailed background about the dispatch consoles and the interstate camera operations. The center covers 12 counties through three dispatch consoles. The tour lasted over two hours and nine people attended.

The September 18th SIG meeting will begin at the NC DOT Highway Camera Center at 6:30, then we will return to El Rodeo for dinner between 7:00 and 7:30. **The topic for the October 16th meeting will be Monitoring Gadgets.**

The Scanner/SWL net is now being held each Monday night at 9:00 on the 146.64 repeater. Be sure to stop by and let us know what you have been monitoring.

For more information, e-mail Bob Zeher (ke4jvy@juno.com) or Kelly Mills (ae4fg@hotmail.com), or call Bob at 844-9757. ■

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Club Badges Available from The Sign Man

RARS has a new supplier for our classy black-on-white club badges. **The Sign Man of Baton Rouge** attends many hamfests, and they have set up a special web page for RARS badge orders:

www.thesignman.com/clubs/rars.html

The basic badge is $8.25 (which includes shipping) with the usual locking safety-pin, and there are a variety of other fasteners available for an extra dollar or two.

RARS badges are also still available from the **Cap & Badge Man**. Dale has not been making as may hamfests as he had in the past, but he was at Shelby in September. ■

Club Meeting Minutes

September, 2000

The regular meeting of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society was held on September 5, 2000 at the Forest Hills Baptist Church on Clark Avenue.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 by President Tim Nicholson, KF4RTX, who welcomed 82 members and 2 guests.

David, N4YTO gave the Treasurer's report. He said that the RARS membership stands at 270. He then said a few words about how the matching gifts program for PCRN will work, and the on motion by K4HM, seconded by W4VFJ, the membership voted to approve the matching funds expenditure.

Jeff AC4ZO was introduced as the RARS Awards Manager, and he brought Karl, K4LNX to the podium to present a ***1st QSO certificate*** to Susan, KG4IYZ.

Gary, KN4AQ was next on the podium. He congratulated the recent RARS class graduates, and then said a few words about the MS-150, an upcoming public service event.

Tim then announced a new net in the neighborhood. Held on the 146.775 repeater, and hosted by Denyse, KG4CXR, the Triangle Womens' Net is on the air on Wednesday evenings.

At this point, Tim introduced the program for the evening: Frank Lynch, W4FAL with the Southeast Repeater Association, and Danny Hampton, K4ITL with the Piedmont Coastal Repeater Network were the Speakers.

Door prizes went to KD4ISC, AB4OZ, KA2RUU, Linda Bloodworth, and KE4DST.

The meeting adjourned at 9:06p.

Jeff Wittich AC4ZO, Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes

August, 2000

Minutes of the RARS August Board Meeting - August 15, 2000

The monthly Board meeting of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society was held at the Forest Hills Baptist Church on July 18. The meeting was called to order by President Tim Nicholson KF4RTX at 7:33p. Members present at that time were: KN4AQ, KG4CXR, KG4CXY, K4HF, AB4OZ, KO4QH, KF4RTX, N4YRD, and AC4ZO. The total attendance was 9.

On motion by K4HF, seconded by KN4AQ, the minutes of the July meeting were approved.

In the Vice President's report, KF4RTX Tim said that the program for the September meeting will feature Frank W4FAL and Danny K4ITL with a program on SERA and PCRN. Matt, W2BYV will present APRS in October. November will be the annual auction, and December finishes the year with a holiday party. *[Note: The November Auctioin has subsequently been posponed until January]*

Committee Reports:

KN4AQ gave the FM committee report. The issue of several frequencies that are coordinated for RARS but going unused was heard. Specifically, 444.525 and 53.25 were considered. The item was moved to New Business.

KO4QH reported on the Education Department. She said she wants to find people to take ham radio to schools this fall. She is working the problems associated with the initiative. Also, the Summer class is nearly over, and the results were great. The next class will begin in February.

KN4AQ, now wearing the hat of the Exciter Editor, said that the printing schedule used last month worked, and we will continue with the new schedule. This requires a deadline of the fifteenth of the month.

KG4CXY gave the Net Manager/Public Service report. He said that participation is up about 20 percent on most nets. In the area of Public Service, Bill has built a new web site listing the Fall events. It is linked from the RARS page. There are six events currently scheduled for the fall. Staffing is under way and going well.

KG4CXR said in the Membership Services report that lots of people have been requesting membership cards. She said that membership seems to be increasing, and all is going well.

K4HM reported on the Hamfest committee. A preliminary meeting has been held to help get Hank up to speed.

K4HF is leading the Nominating Committee through the Fall nominations. The report is expected to be made at the October General meeting.

Old Business:

AC4ZO gave an update on the progress of the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws issue. He said that Fred is waiting for a call from the Secretary of State's office concerning a procedural issue. Tim, KF4RTX has agreed to take on the responsibility of making it happen. The item was continued to next month.

A discussion took place concerning the RARS shed. A lot was said, and good ideas were brought up, but no action was taken by the Board.

New Business:

The issue of coordinated frequencies was heard again. A motion was made by AB4OZ that we relinquish the 444.95 and 53.25 frequencies to SERA. The motion was seconded by KG4CXY. The motion passed. Tim will send a letter to SERA.

The idea was brought up of acquiring a color laser printer for printing Exciters and other jobs on. Bill is suggesting we conduct a study on the propriety of the idea. After discussion, the idea was dropped.

AB4OZ brought an item concerning code tapes. The idea is to purchase commercially prepared code tapes for the RARS library. The tapes could be made available for check out by members.

Logo items were once again discussed. Specifically, patches. The old patches were discussed, and new patches were considered. No action was taken though.

Comments and Announcements:

KN4AQ said a few words about the recent ARES activity. Two training sessions have been held, and a total of 50 hams have been trained. More information will be coming in the Exciter. Some new equipment has been purchased and installed at the State EOC.

With the business complete, on motion by AC4ZO, the meeting adjourned at 9:33p.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Wittich AC4ZO, Secretary

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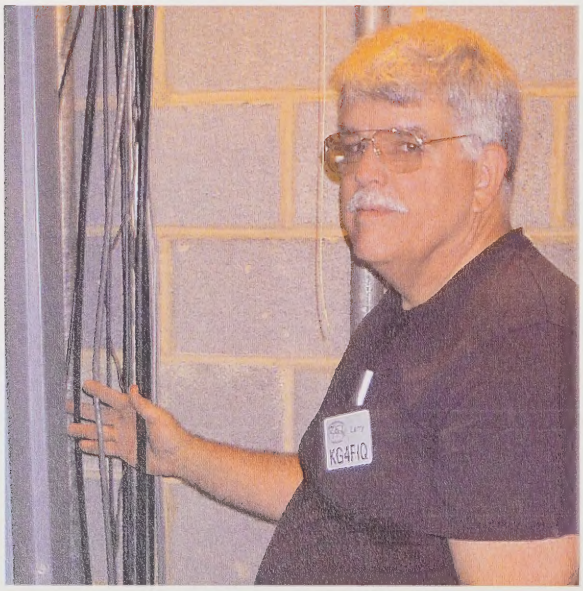
Hamfest Calendar

Oct. 8:	Maysville (yes, it's *on*)
Nov. 4:	Monroe
Nov. 19:	JARSfest (Benson)
December:	none!

courtesy of the **SERA Repeater Journal**



Hey - Here's Larry KG4FIQ after all. He's showing which cables are heading to the ham shack at the State EOC in Raleigh

Snapshots

The Central Carolina SKYWARN operating position at the NWS office in Raleigh is just beside the Doppler RADAR operating console. The SKYWARN station has a Kenwood V7A dual-band radio, and a PC showing the latest weather statements. For more information about SKYWARN, visit their web page:

http://www.centralcarolinaskywarn.net/